

Western Carolina Democrat.

and French Broad Hustler

NEW SERIES—VOL 1, NO. 2

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OLD SERIES—VOL. 17

1913 GENERAL ASSEMBLY ELECT OFFICERS; START WORK

Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 8.—The 1913 General Assembly of North Carolina convened in bi-ennial session heretoday at 12 o'clock and the Senate and House of Representatives settled down to business immediately.

The House was called to order by Principal Clerk T. G. Cobb, of Morganton, after which the 120 representatives from their respective counties took and subscribed to the oath of office.

The Senate was called to order by Lieutenant Governor W. C. Newland, of Caldwell county, who will preside over the deliberations of this body until the inauguration of Hon. E. L. Doughtridge, of Edgecombe county, as lieutenant governor of the state, on January 15.

After the fifty members of the Senate had taken the oath of office, this body proceeded with the election of officers, resulting in the re-election of Mr. R. Otis Self, of Jackson county as principal clerk. At this hour other officers had not been selected.

The House of Representatives elected Hon. George W. Connor, of Wilson, as speaker, and re-elected T. C. Cobb as principal clerk. Other officers are now being selected.

The General Assembly is composed of conservative men who are disposed to legislate in favor of the masses instead of the classes. Judging from the general appearance of things, there will be some legislation of vast importance to the state, among the questions under discussion being those of a more equitable method of taxation, longer school terms, good roads building, etc.

As there has been considerable agitation for immediate action along lines of proposed legislation, it is believed that the legislative bill will be set to grinding without a customary delay of several days and for this reason the opinion is expressed that important measures will not be delayed until the last few days of the session, when the mill is naturally overworked and congested.

The following gentlemen were elected: House, reading clerk, A. M. McLean, Harnett county; Sergeant-at-Arms, J. H. Moring, Wake county; assistant sergeant-at-Arms, E. J. Jenkins, Randolph county; Senate, reading clerk, R. M. Phillips, Guilford county; sergeant-at-Arms, Wilbur G. Hall, Cumberland county; assistant sergeant-at-Arms, Geo. W. Huntley of Anson county. President pro tem, H. N. Pharr, of Mecklenburg; N. M. Hollowell, late of Hendersonville, is to be journal clerk of the senate, having been selected by principal clerk Self.

Legislative actions especially interesting to the Tenth Congressional District will be reported weekly by this paper, which has a representative standing by the "mill" to watch what goes in and what comes out of interest to the "people at home," who will know what their senators and representatives are doing for them, in the way of legislation.

Two Heads Better Than One.

The First Bank and Trust Company of this city has rather a unique advertisement in this week's issue of this paper. Announcing to the many friends and customers consolidation of the First National Bank and Wanteska Trust and Banking company of this city the new institution gives many reasons why it is the best place to do your banking business.

Having emerged from a National bank to a state bank and trust company the new bank can handle all kinds of real estate and trust funds, rental and insurance business. Mr. P. F. Patton, formerly secretary and treasurer of the Wanteska Trust and Banking Company has been elected vice president of the new bank and will be active at the head of the Trust department, insurance and real estate business. The former officers of the First National bank will hold their same positions with the new institution.

The capital stock of \$125,000, a surplus fund and undivided profits of over \$50,000 and deposits to the amount of nearly \$400,000 making total resources over a half million dollars this bank starts an era of wonderful prosperity.

Prof. I. R. Brown, of Charleston, to Erect Handsome Home at Laurel Park and Conduct Summer School Next Season.

Prof. I. R. Brown, of Charleston who occupied the home of Hon. W. A. Smith and conducted a military summer school at Laurel Park last season expects in the near future to erect on his lot, at the head of Rhododendron Lake, Laurel Park, a handsome residence, comprising ten or fifteen rooms, the same to be ready for occupancy next season. Prof. Brown will re-open his school in the early summer, and the cadets, according to their accustomed habit, will form an encampment and like the renowned Arabs dwell in tents.

ORGANIZED GA. STATE ASS'N.

A Georgia State Association was organized here Tuesday afternoon by the Greater Hendersonville club. Dr. Trux, of Atlanta, was elected president, Harold M. Smith, of Tonnille, Ga., secretary and Leonard Phinizy, of Augusta, treasurer. A number of prominent Georgians were enrolled as members. The organization of this association will come as a matter of interest to all Georgians and especially to that element that spend the summers here. It will be remembered that the weekly Press Association of Georgia held a convention here about 4 years ago, and those in attendance expressed themselves as being delighted with Hendersonville. As a result a greater number of Georgians have been coming here since. The fact that a Georgia State Association has been established here will doubtless attract many others to this highly favored section. The State clubs committee of the Greater Hendersonville club is actively engaged in organizing similar associations in other states. Hendersonville is destined to become The City of States.

Further press notice will be given in the future apropos the Georgia State Association.

Man from Here Blamed with Hamlet Explosion— 3 Wives Claim Damages

In the boiler explosion which occurred at the Seaboard Air Line's round house, at Hamlet, a little over a week ago, in which 11 men lost their lives, Dicesa Dill, of this place, wife of John Dill, the victim to whom it is said the blame for the catastrophe is attached, figures conspicuously.

In 1905 John Dill was married to Dicesa Allen, of Campbell, S. C. At that time licenses to wed were not issued in that state. The license law has since been enacted. Dicesa claims that the marriage was performed before a Justice of the Peace and in the presence of witnesses, hence was legal in every sense. At first all went well and John provided for his wife's support. Later he grew indifferent in this respect and spent most of his time away from home. Four years ago Dicesa sued him for non-support. The stipulation set forth was that the either support her or stay away from her entirely and ceased to interfere with her affairs. John chose the latter recourse. Neither sued however for divorce. There has been no communication between the couple since that date. In the meantime, John took up himself two other wives in different towns. It is alleged that these wives can show certificates of marriage. He grew tired of them in time and deserted them likewise.

John's highly colored matrimonial career suddenly terminated when he was blown into atoms by the boiler explosion of a week ago. He had been discharged by the Southern, for which road he had worked, as fireman. He had just been employed by the Seaboard in the same capacity and had reported for work, for the first time, only about four hours before the explosion occurred. Dicesa claims that according to report he was tinkering with the boiler and run down the pop valve too low in order to hold down the steam. He took one chance too many—the pressure was too great—the steam could not pass off, and the horrible catastrophe which resulted in hurling eleven souls into eternity was the result.

Dicesa had not even heard of his death until the claim agent came here with an offer to compromise. Dicesa claims that he said the road was willing to divide three hundred dollars between her, her child and wife No. 2. It seems that wife No. 3 has entered a damage suit against the road. Dicesa says the claim agent has already paid her \$25.00, and that he claims he will pay the child in the neighborhood of \$125.00. Wife No. 2, according to Dicesa's statement is to receive the balance of the three hundred. Dicesa states that she agreed to accept whatever the road saw fit to give her as her respectability kept her from wanting to be mixed up in a case with so many ugly features. She further states that she has "signed the papers." She seemed to think that the fact that she could not "show a license," under the laws of the State of South Carolina, at the time of the marriage, would prove a bar to legal proceedings, though she claims she can prove that her marriage was legal.

PERSONAL MENTION

Miss Sallie Rollins, of Asheville, was registered at the St. John Sunday.

Mr. Sam T. Hodges went to Boston Friday.

Mr. S. C. Caldwell, Jr., has returned to Nashville after spending the holidays with his family here.

Dr. Morse has returned from New York where he recently went on pressing business.

Mr. Oscar Cook has returned after a short absence from town. Mr. Cooke visited his mother in Norfolk.

Miss Sadie Davidson, of Charlotte, was among the arrival sat the St. John Sunday.

Mr. C. B. Moffitt, of Horse Shoe, was a pleasant caller at the office of The Democrat Monday.

Mr. D. N. Showalter, of Lake Toxaway, spent a few hours in the city Monday.

Mr. E. G. Stillwell returned from Atlanta Friday where he went on a business trip.

Mr. Moore, who is associated with the Kentucky Home, spent the day in Asheville Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Dyanart, were a part of the holidays in Asheville as the guests of relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Kellogg, of Kelton, S. C., spent a few days at the St. John last week.

Among the recent arrivals at the St. John hotel were Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Houston, of Greenville, S. C.

Mr. A. S. Hammett, of Galveston, Texas, has been stopping at the St. John hotel.

Mr. Hundley Gover is again at the University of Virginia after a short vacation spent with his mother, Mrs. M. A. Gover, Christmas week.

Mr. Vance Norwood returned Tuesday afternoon from a visit to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Norwood, at Waxhaw, N. C.

Nineteen arrivals were placed to the credit of the St. John register Monday. This looks as if the travel had opened up with renewed vigor.

Mr. W. C. Vaughn, of Asheville, W. F. Kirby, of Cleveland, Tenn., and C. A. Wood, of Weaverville, were recent arrivals at the Kentucky Home.

Mr. Frank Early, who spent the holidays with his aunt, Mrs. Vance Norwood, returned to his home at Elmwood, last Saturday afternoon.

Misses Gladys Gover and Cora Lott returned to Staunton, Friday, to resume their studies at the Mary Baldwin Seminary.

Mrs. D. J. Fuller, and daughter, Miss Muriel Fuller, left Wednesday evening for New York for a two weeks' visit to friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles French Toms and children, of Asheville, were the guests of Capt. and Mrs. M. C. Toms a few days last week.

After spending a delightful Christmas vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam T. Hodges, Miss Gladys Hodges has returned to Randolph-Macon.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Gilbert, of Spartanburg, are among the newcomers to Hendersonville. They are living in Marshalltown. Mr. Gilbert and his family have formed a very pleasant impression of Hendersonville.

Miss Minnie Ewart had as her guests Thursday night, Misses Annie and May McDowell, and adopted daughter, of Asheville. The Misses McDowell were en route from Greenville, S. C., where they visited a niece Christmas week.

Some New Year thoughts under the heading, "Mostly Contemplative" reached the paper too late for publication last week. They appear in another column of today's paper and are well worth the reading.

Mrs. LeVoy and daughter, of Cincinnati, are at Mrs. Bailey's for awhile Mrs. Norton, of Brevard, was among those recently registered at the Kentucky Home.

Mr. John Alden, Mrs. Smith and Miss Smith are among recent guests at the St. John. The party left New York last Friday by automobile and arrived in Hendersonville Tuesday.

Representative J. P. Patton, of Flat Rock, has gone to Raleigh. He will witness both the inauguration of the Governor at Raleigh, and the President at Washington, before his return.

Dr. W. F. Nickel left Tuesday night for Cocoa, Fla., where he will remain about eight weeks. Upon his return he will open up his office over Hunter's Pharmacy.

Misses Ruth Smith, Helen Child and Louise Hodges have returned from DeLand, Florida, where they were members of a very delightful house party given by Miss Jessie Lewis, during the holidays.

Mr. W. F. Randolph, of Asheville, manager of the E. W. Grove estate, and one of Asheville's foremost boosters, was present at the recent banquet given by The Greater Hendersonville Club.

Rev. Donald W. Richardson will preach at the Presbyterian church next Sunday morning at 11 a. m. Everybody is cordially invited to attend.

Dr. Buckner and brother, Mr. N. Buckner, secretary of the Asheville Board of Trade, were pleasantly noted among the out-of-town guests at the Third Booster Banquet Thursday evening. Attention is called to Mr. Buckner's very excellent address on another page.

The friends of Rev. A. L. Standford are pleased to note that he is able to be out again after a slight indisposition last week which resulted in his enforced confinement to the house for a few days.

Mr. T. W. Wood, land and industrial agent for the Southern Railway, whose headquarters are in Asheville, was here Tuesday, in the interests of the proposed Henderson County Fair. Mr. Wood has assured members of the Greater Hendersonville club of his wish to co-operate with them in all matters pertaining to the interests of the club.

Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Durfee have with them, as their house guests, Mrs. Durfee's sister, Mrs. W. C. French, and husband, of Lansing, Mich., who arrived in the city Saturday night and will remain several weeks. While visiting here several years ago, Mr. and Mrs. French made a number of friends who will be pleased to know of their return. Mr. French is much interested in real estate. He speaks enthusiastically of the many improvements which have taken place here since his first visit.

Among the distinguished out-of-town attendants at the banquet Thursday night were Col. S. A. Jones, of Waxhaw, and Col. Sanford H. Cohen, of Asheville. Col. Jones was formerly president of the South Atlantic Trans-Continental R. R. Co. He possesses admirable literary gifts which place him among the well known writers of today. As manager of the Greater Western North Carolina Association, Col. Sanford H. Cohen's name has become a household word. His popularity extends from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Citizens Bank Pays Regular Semi-annual 4 per cent. Dividend

The regular semi-annual dividend of 4 per cent was declared last week by the Citizens bank of this city. This bank also added to its surplus fund making a total of over \$6,000. The past year has been by far the most prosperous year in the history of the bank.

The annual stockholders meeting will be held next Tuesday in the directors rooms of the bank. It is said that a very encouraging report will be given by the officers of the institution.

Final Test of Power Plant by Electrical Engineers.

Mr. W. H. Bangs, of Atlanta, one of the foremost electrical engineers of the south, was here last week for the purpose of completing the installation of the power plant of the Laurel Park Street Railway company and giving the machinery the final test. The test proved satisfactory in every detail and the plant was accordingly pronounced, by Mr. Bangs, to be in first class working order.

The line was staked for the poles some time ago and a force of hands is now setting them in place.

Mr. Bangs left here Wednesday night, with the understanding that he would put in an immediate order for trolley wires, brackets and line equipment. Upon receipt of this line equipment, which is expected at an early date, Mr. Bangs will return and string the trolleys and the road will then be ready for operation.

Co. Commissioners Meet —Bridge Settlement

The county commissioners of Henderson county held their monthly meeting at the court house Monday and Tuesday. Much routine work was disposed of. Among the principal matters of business that came before the meeting was the settlement with the Roanoke Bridge Company for two bridges built across the French Broad river. One of these bridges is known as the McLain bridge and spans the river at Horse Shoe; the other designated as the Fanning bridge is located at Fletcher. These bridges of built of iron are considered among the best in the state and cost the county approximately ten thousand dollars.

The matter of the posting of roads was taken up by the commissioners at this meeting and it was ordered that roads in Mills River township, Crab Creek and Hendersonville townships be posted. A number of claims were allowed and much routine work was disposed of.

MANY START IN TO WORK FOR THE WASHINGTON TRIP

G. GAITHER KILLS WIFE IN FIT OF RAGE

Gus Gaither, colored, shot and instantly killed his wife, Zernsha Gaither, at their home, directly across from the Presbyterian Manse, shortly after 9 o'clock Thursday night. The weapon used was an army rifle. The ball entered just above the upper lip and came out at the back of the neck. Domestic infelicities are alleged as the cause of the dastardly crime. A quarrel had been in progress for several days, according to the testimony of various persons. While the negro and his wife were eating their supper, it is alleged the quarrel was resumed and that the woman requested Gaither to pack his trunk and get out, as it seemed impossible for them to live peaceably together. That they finished their supper and the woman afterward seated herself in front of the fire. Gaither left the room and soon after was heard fumbling around in an adjoining room in which there was no light. A slight noise evidently caused the woman to turn her head in the direction of the opened door to the darkened room. Instantly there was a blinding flash and her upturned face received the full discharge of the gun. Death was instantaneous. It is claimed that a woman and boy were in the room at the time, but had their backs turned, intent upon looking at a magazine, and that the crime was enacted with such horrible swiftness that they did not have time to turn round before the woman was stretched in death. Hence there were no real eye witnesses to the tragedy. No sooner was the diabolical crime committed than the murderer threw down his gun, rushed out of the house and gave himself up to the authorities. He was locked in the county jail pending a preliminary trial which was held at the court house Tuesday, before Justice of the Peace, B. F. Hood, at which time three or four of the state's witnesses were examined, when the state rested its case and the murderer was committed to jail, without bail. McD. Ray, Esq., appeared as plaintiff's attorney, and W. A. Smith, Esq., represented the defendant. The case bids fair to be an interesting one full of dramatic colorings.

Zernsha Gaither was the daughter of Frank Brown, commonly known as "Parson" Brown, a highly respected colored man. According to common report her reputation was not of the best.

Gus Gaither, the murderer, came originally from Charlotte and was for some time employed by Mr. George Stephens, of Charlotte, in the capacity of chauffeur. For two or three seasons, including last summer, he worked at the Kanuga Lake Club. It seems that there has been domestic friction in the Gaither household from the beginning in which other parties have played a prominent part.

The murdered woman was buried in Oak Dale cemetery last Sunday afternoon. A long procession followed her remains.

Tourists Can no Longer Complain.

Tourists can no longer complain of not finding comfortable quarters in Hendersonville during the cold weather. At Mrs. J. W. Bailey's boarding house, always known as a favorite stopping place, a system of hot water heating has just been installed. A number of Hendersonville boarding house keepers, desiring to add to the comfort of their guests, have adopted this more satisfactory system of heating. The last few days, however, fires have hardly seemed necessary. The air has been almost as balmy as spring. Dandelions and violets are in full bloom. The winter has been unusually mild and the early return of tourists from the extreme Southern points is expected.

At the Methodist Church.

The services at the Methodist church will be of interest next Sunday. The pastor will preach a sermon to the laymen at the close of which all the official members will be installed. There will be special music. The music is becoming a very interesting and attractive feature at the Methodist church. The entire membership is urged to be present and the community is cordially invited.

Sunday school at 9:45. Come and bring a friend.

Forty-eight dollars worth of new subscribers to The Western Carolina Democrat insures you a free trip to Washington. Get busy.

They have started on that Washington trip, which will be given away by this company to any person coming up to the requirements, all ready by hustling around to their friends and getting new subscribers.

One of the best features of the trip proposition is the commission also given all those who happen to fail to get the necessary \$48.00, 20 per cent will be paid any one bringing to this office a new \$1.00 subscription in this contest. Of course you are expected to enter the contest in good faith before the commission is extended.

Indications point that the Hustler company will have a party of at least twenty people to see the great capital city when Gov. Woodrow Wilson takes the chair in Washington, D. Do not wait. Make the amount for the trip and then start over on the per centage and make your spending money from the Hustler company.

New Pastor Arrives.
Hendersonville welcomes among its new comers, Rev. R. D. Carroll and family of Newton, N. C.

Rev. Mr. Carroll has accepted the pastorate of the East Hendersonville Baptist church and has already entered upon his work. He and his family are at present stopping at the home of Mr. D. S. Pace in East Hendersonville. A hearty welcome is extended to Mr. Carroll.

ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING OF G. H. CLUB

Proceedings of Business Meeting of Greater Hendersonville Club Marked With Enthusiasm.

The business meeting of the Greater Hendersonville club, which preceded the banquet Thursday evening was marked with a full attendance and much enthusiasm. The treasury report showed a balance of cash on hand of \$160.83. Dr. Fuller's report on signs for eastern cities was accepted and work of committee continued. Mr. Sam T. Hodges, chairman, and president of County Fair association reported that a permanent organization had been effected, with Mr. F. A. Ewbank as permanent secretary; that committees had been appointed to select a date and secure grounds and buildings for location; that it had been decided to appoint a committee of county men to work in conjunction with the town committee; that the fair would be held in the business section of the town and the work pushed vigorously.

Motion prevailed adopting the report and adding to the committee C. E. Brooks, W. S. Miller and R. P. Freeze, making the committee in full: Sam T. Hodges, chairman, Dr. J. S. Brown, W. A. Smith, W. F. Edwards, P. F. Patton, Frank A. Ewbank, C. S. Fullbright, R. M. Oates, C. E. Brooks, R. P. Freeze and W. S. Miller.

The matter of complaints with regard to the assessment of street tax upon the servants of visitors was taken up and satisfactorily disposed of. The question of the enforcement of the State automobile laws was discussed and action daily taken thereon. Election of officers next to come up, Mr. Smith put in nomination for First Vice President, Mr. E. W. Ewbank. No other nominations motion prevailed that secretary cast ballot of the meeting for the election of Mr. Ewbank.

Mr. King G. Morris was nominated for second vice president, nomination seconded and secretary cast ballot of the meeting electing Mr. Morris second vice president.

The president suggested that the office of secretary be made an appointive one, and Mr. E. W. Ewbank placed in nomination for this place Mr. H. C. Meyer, and motion prevailed that secretary cast ballot of the meeting electing Mr. Meyer secretary, salary to be determined by the board of governors.

Mr. Smith moved that the club go into the election of treasurer and Mr. J. Mack Rhodes was nominated and received ballot of the meeting, secretary casting ballot of those present for his election.

Letter from Miss Eva Jordan, State Normal college, relative to the club carrying a full page advertisement in State Normal College Annual referred to advertising committee with power to act.

Mr. Smith moved that the club send our president to St. Petersburg, Fla., to be there February 21st occasion big Board of Trade meeting of St. Petersburg people in connection with Carolina meeting and Washington's birthday celebration.

At 9 o'clock the meeting adjourned to participate in banquet, a description of which appears in another column.

Mrs. S. C. Caldwell shopped in Asheville Wednesday.

Dr. Morey has recovered from his illness. Dr. J. G. Waldrop's condition remains unchanged.